

Site Name: Bishop Tube

County: Chester

Municipality: East Whiteland Township

Lat/Long: 40.04/-75.536944

House Rep: Duane Milne (167th Hse Dist)

Senate: Andrew E. Dinniman (19th Sen Dist)

Date Updated: May 14, 2015

DEP Contact: D. Armstrong

eFACTS PrimFac #: 617200

Brief History:

The Bishop Tube site was used for manufacturing stainless steel tubes from the 1950's until 1999, under a variety of different owners. Trichloroethene (TCE) has been detected in soil, surface water, groundwater and indoor air at the site. Three main sources of TCE include two former vapor degreasers and a drum storage area. Groundwater sampling has revealed extremely high concentrations of TCE (indicative of free-phase liquid) migrating from the site.

Human Health & Environmental Impact and Completed Response Actions:

TCE is present in one down gradient home well used as a water supply. The home was fitted with a carbon filtration unit by Christiana Metals (a former property owner/operator of Bishop Tube). The EV stream Little Valley Creek has been found to contain elevated TCE levels for more than a mile downstream. The full down gradient and vertical extent of groundwater contamination is currently being assessed by Johnson Matthey, Inc. and Whittaker Corp. (former operators of Bishop Tube) under an agreement with the DEP. The responsible parties will evaluate the vapor intrusion pathway at area homes and businesses in their Remedial Investigation Report to be completed in July 2015.

Cleanup Status:

Johnson Matthey, Inc. and Whittaker Corp. (JM/Whittaker) are completing Remedial Investigation activities at the site. Additional source area and downgradient wells, including a well east of Conestoga Rd., were installed in 2014 to evaluate the vertical and lateral extent of groundwater contamination. Additional indoor air and soil sampling were completed in March and April 2015. JM/Whittaker continue to perform a treatability study in the former Plant 8 vapor degreaser source area. If successful, bioremediation may replace the air sparge/soil vapor extraction system installed by DEP. Multiple rounds of molasses injection and one round of inoculation have been performed. The treatability study is scheduled for completion in August 2015.

GASB49 Pollution Remediation Obligations Information (Only required for HSCA Funded Sites):

Not Applicable – Enforcement Lead